



Dear all,

This week's letter comes from Rev. George Cobb.

George writes...

A number of people I've been in touch with recently, unsurprisingly, seem to be weighed down with the cares of the world – in the current jargon, they're Covid weary. Nearly 50 years ago, I became a Christian when I responded to that wonderful invitation of Jesus to ***Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest (Matthew 11:28)*** – now part of the 'Comfortable Words' in our Communion service.

Many centuries earlier, God issued a similar invitation to the people of Isaiah's day: ***Come, all you who are thirsty, come to the waters...Give ear and come to Me; listen that you may live...Seek the Lord while He may be found; call on Him while He is near (Isaiah 55:1, 3 & 6)***. As the apostle James put it in his letter to the early Church: ***Come near to God and He will come near to you (James 4:8)***.

One day, I would love St. Mary's to have a sermon series based on God's amazing invitation to ***Come*** to Him – there are at least 10 passages that such sermons could be based on. We all need to ***Come*** to Jesus in repentance and faith to begin our Christian life, as I did all those years ago – but we also need to ***Come*** to Jesus afresh every day of our lives, whether through good times or through challenging times, such as now. So together, let's ***Come*** to Him.

Church News:

- **The Weekly Challenge**

Thanks to all who have taken part in the Advent & Christmas Weekly Challenge so far. Do send in your entry for this week.

For more details and to see all the challenges coming up, [click here](#).

- **Christmas Doorstep Carolling**
On Wednesday 16th December @ 6pm, there is an opportunity to join with people throughout the country carolling from your Doorstep! Visit this [website](#) for more information!
- **The Stables Christian Centre Christmas Sale**
The Stables Christian Centre Bolnhurst will be open for a Christmas sale this Saturday 5 December, from 10 to 3. Safe shopping procedures will be in place. Christmas gifts, preserves and fresh apples from our orchards will be on sale. For more information, do visit their [Website](#) or [Facebook Page](#)
- **Christmas 2020 @ St Mary's**
[Click here](#) to view both the Christmas Services taken place at St Mary's and some Christmas videos to feed the soul – do enjoy these!

NB: There is a special **Carols & Communion Christmas Service on Wednesday 23rd December at 10am**. This is NOT on the Christmas leaflet, so don't miss this special service.

Family Christmas Videos can be viewed by [clicking here](#).

- **Christmas Lunch**
If you are on your own this year, live in St Neots, there is the opportunity for you to receive a cooked Christmas Dinner, delivered to your doorstep. For more information, please contact Tim.
- **Christmas Eve Get Together**
Grab a Mince Pie and a Drink and join us on Zoom to wish each other Happy Christmas on Christmas Eve. Join us at 11am – wear a Christmas jumper or hat or not...! Sign up for this event by [clicking here](#).
- **World Mission Update**
The latest newsletter from **Actios** is available by [clicking here](#).
- **Creation Care Group Update**
The latest news about Nest Boxes can be viewed by [clicking here](#).
- **Sunday's Service**
Good news – Services in Church can be attended once again. Please [click here to book your ticket](#) for this Sunday's Service. The service will be live-streamed as usual too.
- **Catch up Services**
Remember you can catch up on any streamed services on the Church's Website. [Click here](#) to discover this.

- **Wednesday's Service**

Wednesday Services start again this week at 9am. Do join us. To book your ticket, [click here.](#)

Under Aslan's paw,

Tim

Vicar, St Mary's Eaton Socon